

**AN ORDINANCE
BY COUNCIL MEMBER CATHY WOOLARD**

00- ○ -1980

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE II SECTION 162-42 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA SO AS TO DELETE THE WORDS "SOLELY, RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, RELIGIOUS BELIEF, SEX OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION;" AND TO INSERT THE FOLLOWING WORDS IN LIEU THEREOF: "THAT PASSENGER'S OR THE PERCEPTION OF THAT PASSENGER'S RACE, COLOR, CREED, RELIGION, SEX, DOMESTIC RELATIONSHIP STATUS, PARENTAL STATUS, FAMILIAL STATUS, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, GENDER IDENTITY, AGE, OR DISABILITY;" TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Atlanta has a rich history in the civil rights movement and is rightfully considered one of the most progressive cities in the country regarding its policies ensuring equal rights for all its citizens; and

WHEREAS, there has never been a comprehensive review of the City's existing human rights ordinances, resulting in inconsistencies in coverage and definitions in various code sections.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE II SECTION 162-42 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES which currently reads as follows:

Sec. 162-42. Miscellaneous requirements and penalties.

(a) Within 24 hours of the discovery of any personal property left by a passenger in a vehicle for hire, a driver shall forward such property to the bureau.

(b) A driver shall take the most direct route to a passenger's destination unless otherwise authorized or directed by the passenger.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any driver of a vehicle for hire for which a current CPNC has not been issued by the city to solicit or engage passengers within the city. However, this section does not apply to any limousine company if such company is licensed by a local governing authority within the state and if such company has obtained a sticker from the city issued pursuant to section 162-141.1 for each limousine which the company will operate within the limits of the city.

- (d) A taxicab driver shall not refuse to accept a passenger unless the passenger is obviously intoxicated or dangerous.
- (e) No driver shall refuse to accept a passenger solely on the basis of race, color, national origin, religious belief, sex or sexual orientation.
- (f) It shall be unlawful for any driver, company or CPNC holder to operate any vehicle for hire for which a CPNC has been issued which is not insured in the amounts required by the state.
- (g) No taxicab shall be permitted to carry nonpaying passengers while transporting a paying passenger except for the purpose of driver training.
- (h) It shall be unlawful for a driver to operate the vehicle in a manner which threatens a passenger or anyone else or to threaten or otherwise abuse a passenger or for any passenger to abuse a driver, and it shall also be unlawful for a driver to discharge any passenger before reaching the passenger's destination unless the driver has a reasonable belief that the passenger is dangerous or unless street conditions do not permit a safe discharge.
- (i) No television sets may be operated on the front seat on which the driver sits inside of a moving taxicab.
- (j) Drivers, companies and CPNC holders shall be prohibited from refusing to display to bureau inspectors or law enforcement officers any information required by this article, and shall be prohibited from failing to cooperate with bureau inspectors in performing their duties.
- (k) It shall be unlawful for drivers to drive or for companies or CPNC holders to allow to be driven any vehicle for hire which does not have a valid inspection sticker, correction slip or valid insurance sticker or any unsealed or improperly working taxi fare meter.
- (l) Companies operating vehicles for hire shall be prohibited from allowing such vehicles to be operated by persons not holding valid driver permits.
- (m) Driver transfer of affiliation from one company to another shall be limited to one per driver per year. For purposes of this subsection, the term "transfer" means a change of a driver's company affiliation which is the result of a violation of this article relating to such driver's operation of a vehicle for hire. No company shall be prohibited by this article from terminating a driver's affiliation with that company. Any time a driver changes company affiliation for whatever reason, the company the driver is leaving must notify the bureau in writing of the reason within three days of such change. This notice shall remain available for inspection by any company or by the public.
- (n) Drivers shall not be required to carry more than \$15.00 in change.
- (o) Drivers shall give receipts upon request of a passenger, showing the amount of fare paid, name of company, CPNC number, number of passengers, location of trip, origination and location of trip termination.
- (p) It shall be unlawful for any driver to carry a number of passengers that exceeds the seating capacity of

the vehicle for hire according to the vehicle manufacturer's specifications.

(q) Any driver found guilty of disorderly conduct, particularly fighting, using profane and/or abusive language or any other violent act while on a taxicab stand or driving a cab will be subject to the following penalties:

(1) First offense, \$250.00 fine (may waive hearing)

(2) Second offense, \$250.00 fine and 30 days suspension

(3) Third offense, 60 days suspension, \$500.00 fine and/or possibility of permanent revocation of permit. (Code 1977, §§ 14-8018; Ord. No. 1995-37, §§§§ 17, 22, 7-11-95)

Be amended by deleting the foregoing words “solely, race, color, national origin, religious belief, sex, or sexual orientation” and inserting the following in lieu thereof:

Sec. 162-42. Miscellaneous requirements and penalties.

(a) Within 24 hours of the discovery of any personal property left by a passenger in a vehicle for hire, a driver shall forward such property to the bureau.

(b) A driver shall take the most direct route to a passenger's destination unless otherwise authorized or directed by the passenger.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any driver of a vehicle for hire for which a current CPNC has not been issued by the city to solicit or engage passengers within the city. However, this section does not apply to any limousine company if such company is licensed by a local governing authority within the state and if such company has obtained a sticker from the city issued pursuant to section 162-141.1 for each limousine which the company will operate within the limits of the city.

(d) A taxicab driver shall not refuse to accept a passenger unless the passenger is obviously intoxicated or dangerous.

(e) No driver shall refuse to accept a passenger solely on the basis of **that passenger's or perception of that passenger's race, color, creed, religion, sex, domestic relationship status, parental status, familial status, sexual orientation, national origin, gender identity, age, or disability.**

(f) It shall be unlawful for any driver, company or CPNC holder to operate any vehicle for hire for which a CPNC has been issued which is not insured in the amounts required by the state.

(g) No taxicab shall be permitted to carry nonpaying passengers while transporting a paying passenger

except for the purpose of driver training.

(h) It shall be unlawful for a driver to operate the vehicle in a manner which threatens a passenger or anyone else or to threaten or otherwise abuse a passenger or for any passenger to abuse a driver, and it shall also be unlawful for a driver to discharge any passenger before reaching the passenger's destination unless the driver has a reasonable belief that the passenger is dangerous or unless street conditions do not permit a safe discharge.

(i) No television sets may be operated on the front seat on which the driver sits inside of a moving taxicab.

(j) Drivers, companies and CPNC holders shall be prohibited from refusing to display to bureau inspectors or law enforcement officers any information required by this article, and shall be prohibited from failing to cooperate with bureau inspectors in performing their duties.

(k) It shall be unlawful for drivers to drive or for companies or CPNC holders to allow to be driven any vehicle for hire which does not have a valid inspection sticker, correction slip or valid insurance sticker or any unsealed or improperly working taxi fare meter.

(l) Companies operating vehicles for hire shall be prohibited from allowing such vehicles to be operated by persons not holding valid driver permits.

(m) Driver transfer of affiliation from one company to another shall be limited to one per driver per year. For purposes of this subsection, the term "transfer" means a change of a driver's company affiliation which is the result of a violation of this article relating to such driver's operation of a vehicle for hire. No company shall be prohibited by this article from terminating a driver's affiliation with that company. Any time a driver changes company affiliation for whatever reason, the company the driver is leaving must notify the bureau in writing of the reason within three days of such change. This notice shall remain available for inspection by any company or by the public.

(n) Drivers shall not be required to carry more than \$15.00 in change.

(o) Drivers shall give receipts upon request of a passenger, showing the amount of fare paid, name of company, CPNC number, number of passengers, location of trip, origination and location of trip termination.

(p) It shall be unlawful for any driver to carry a number of passengers that exceeds the seating capacity of the vehicle for hire according to the vehicle manufacturer's specifications.

(q) Any driver found guilty of disorderly conduct, particularly fighting, using profane and/or abusive language or any other violent act while on a taxicab stand or driving a cab will be subject to the following penalties:

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(3) Third offense, 60 days suspension, \$500.00 fine and/or possibility of permanent revocation of permit.
(Code 1977, §§ 14-8018; Ord. No. 1995-37, §§§§ 17, 22, 7-11-95)
